

PROCEEDINGS
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FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF BIRDS OF
VENEZUELA

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Examination of specimens in the Phelps Collection and of comparative material in the United States National Museum and the American Museum of Natural History has shown to the authors some species and subspecies which they believe to be new, that are described in the body of this paper.

These new birds were obtained by Sr. Ramón Urbano of the Phelps Collection, on several recent field expeditions. Three of the localities concerned, viz., Caripe, Bramón and Cerro Chimantá-tepui, appear in standard publications on the ornithology of Venezuela. Cerro de la Neblina is a sandstone, table-top mountain in extreme southern Venezuela at the headwaters of the Río Yatúa, nearly on the Brazilian border. Río Chiquito rises on the eastern slopes of the massif that culminates in the Páramo de Tamá, and is in the Orinoco river watershed. Burgua is situated near the river of the same name in the foothills near the eastern base of the same massif, on the Táchira side of the river.

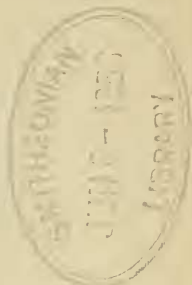
FAMILY TINAMIDAE.

Crypturellus noctivagus cursitans subsp. nov.

Characters.—Similar to *Crypturellus noctivagus idoneus* (Todd)¹, but much darker; more rufescent, on the sides of the head and the entire dorsal surface; darker below also, except for the white throat; upper breast with gray more prominent, and darker.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 58,544, male, from San Luis, near Burgua,, 530 meters elevation, Estado Táchira, Venezuela, collected November 23, 1952, by Ramón Urbano; (on deposit in U.S. National Museum). Forehead mouse gray, shading to dark mouse gray on the center of the crown, and then gradually becoming warm sepia on the nape, this color continuing over the hindneck; base of the hindneck washed with deep neutral gray; back natal brown shading through bister on the rump, the feathers tipped narrowly with dusky neutral gray; upper tail coverts snuff brown, barred indistinctly with clay color and tawny olive, and irregularly with dusky neutral gray; outermost lesser wing coverts deep neutral gray, forming a definite shoulder patch, contrasting with the Saccardo's umber of the inner series; alula and remiges fucous-black, the outer webs of the primaries becoming fuscous, the longer ones with a narrow edging of Saccardo's umber at the tip on the outer web; middle and greater coverts Saccardo's umber, barred irregularly with dusky neutral gray, cinnamon-

¹ *Crypturus idoneus* Todd, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 32, June 27, 1919, p. 117 (Bonda, Magdalena, Colombia).



buff and clay color; secondaries marked irregularly on outer webs with pinkish buff, and cinnamon buff, the innermost natal brown like the back, with broken bars of dusky neutral gray and tawny olive; lores, space under eyes, and stripe from base of mandible to below the ear coverts, cinnamon; ear coverts, space behind eye, and sides of neck verona brown; throat clear white, changing to mouse gray on foreneck and upper breast, with a faint wash of verona brown as an indistinct edging on the feathers of the foreneck; breast light cinnamon-buff, becoming paler on the upper abdomen; sides drab; flanks barred broadly with dark neutral gray, narrowly with cinnamon-buff, and tipped with cartridge buff; lower abdomen cinnamon-buff, barred narrowly with dark neutral gray; under tail coverts clay color, marked irregularly with dull black; outermost under wing coverts deep neutral gray, the innermost light neutral gray; axillars light mouse gray, tipped with pale pinkish buff. Maxilla fuscous-black; mandible pale, dull cream-buff (from dried skin); tarsus and toes reddish brown (from collector's label, dull tawny-olive in dried skin).

Measurements. Males (3 specimens), wing 162-165 (163.3), tail 55.6-58.8 (56.7), culmen from base 27.2-30.6 (28.8), tarsus 48.9-49.2 (49.1) mm.

Type, male, wing 162, tail 55.6, culmen from base 28.7, tarsus 49.2 mm.

Range. Known from Campamento Petrolero (400 meters elevation), San Luis (530 meters) and Mata de Nigua (600 meters), all near Burgua, southern Táchira, Venezuela.

Remarks. The present form, recognizable at a glance because of its deeper, more rufescent color, clearly is connected most closely with the race *idoneus* that extends into northwestern Zulia from the Guajira Peninsula, and ranges south along the eastern base of the Sierra de Perijá to beyond Machiques. It is presumed that the distribution of *C. n. cursitans* may extend through southwestern Lara to Táchira though no specimens from this area are yet available.

It is curious to note that the form from Táchira that we describe in these notes superficially is closely similar to another race of the species, *Crypturellus noctivagus columbianus* (Salvadori) of western Bolívar and northern Antioquia in northwestern Colombia. *C. n. cursitans* differs from *columbianus* in having the sides of the head and neck brighter brown, the secondaries with bolder markings, and the tips of the axillars buff. The two forms are separated completely by the pale colored *C. n. idoneus* which is found in the broad expanse of land between.

FAMILY APODIDAE

Chaetura vauxi aphanes subsp. nov.

Characters. Similar to *Chaetura vauxi richmondi* Ridgway², but throat less clearly white, having a very light brownish gray cast; pale color of foreneck extended to or onto the upper breast; rump and upper tail coverts paler, more brownish gray.

² *Chaetura richmondi* Ridgway, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 23, April 19, 1910, p. 53 (Guayabo, Costa Rica).

Similar also to *Chaetura vauxi ochropygia* Aldrich³, but throat and foreneck differing as in *C. v. richmondi*; breast and abdomen slightly darker; slightly larger.

Description. Type, Phelps Collection no. 22856, male, Caripe, Estado Monagas, Venezuela, 800 meters elevation, taken July 31, 1943, by Ramon Urbano; (on deposit in U.S. National Museum). Crown, hind-neck, upper back and wings dull black, with a very faint sheen of olivaceous black; lower back and rump between light drab and light grayish olive; upper tail coverts slightly grayer than light drab; rectrices chaetura black, with the inner webs shaded with light drab; lores chaetura black; sides of head hair brown; throat and foreneck pale grayish white; breast, sides and abdomen hair brown; flanks, under tail coverts and under wing coverts chaetura drab. Bill dull black; tarsus, toes and claws fuscous (from dried skin).

Measurements. Males (12 specimens), wing 112.5-115.4 (114.3), tail (6 individuals) 34.3-37.7 (36.1), culmen from base 5.4-6.2 (5.6), tarsus 10.0-11.5 (10.8) mm.

Females (7 specimens), wing 110.0-115.7 (113.8), tail 38.7-39.2 (38.9), culmen from base 5.1-5.9 (5.5), tarsus 10.0-11.1 (10.7) mm.

Type, male, wing 115.4, tail 35.8, culmen from base 5.4, tarsus 11.5 mm.

Range.—Northern Venezuela: Known at present from Lara (Boguerón), Yaracuy (Bucaral, San Felipe), Carabobo (Cumbre de Valencia), Aragua (Turiamo, Colonia Tovar, Cerro Golfo Triste), Distrito Federal (El Limón, Caracas), Miranda (Petare, Curupao, Guareñas), Anzoátegui (Bergantín), and Monagas (Caripe).

Remarks.—The discovery of a breeding population of *Chaetura vauxi* in northern Venezuela announced by Sutton and Phelps⁴ has added considerably to the known range of the species, which however remains otherwise unknown east of central Panamá, except for the region immediately adjacent to the Canal Zone, and the Pearl Islands (San José, Pedro González).

Comparison of additional material from Central America and Panamá with the extensive series in the Phelps Collection now has shown that the birds of Venezuela belong to a distinct race, readily perceptible when birds of similar age are compared, but easily confused with *C. v. richmondi* when immature birds, marked by whitish tips on primaries and secondaries, are not segregated from the adults. It seems to have been this that led to the earlier identification of the Venezuelan series as *C. v. richmondi*, the immature birds being darker than the adults. Freshly taken skins are faintly grayer than older museum specimens, which become slightly brownish with storage in museum trays, but the change is not extensive. The specimens used in the present study are properly comparable, since their range in age as museum specimens is in close agreement.

The somewhat smaller size of *C. v. ochropygia* is indicated by the following measurements from the adults in the series from southern Veraguas (Soná) and the Pearl Islands in the U.S. National Museum:

³ *Chaetura vauxi ochropygia* Aldrich, Sci. Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 7, Aug. 31, 1937, p. 68 (Paracoté, 1 mile south of the mouth of Río Ángulo, Montijo Bay, Veraguas, Panamá).

⁴ Sutton and Phelps, Occ. Papers Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan, no. 505, Jan. 14, 1948, pp. 1-6; Sutton, Wilson Bull., vol. 60, no. 3, Sept., 1948, pp. 189-190.

Males: (11 specimens), wing 108.0-112.2 (109.4), tail 33.0-38.2 (35.0), culmen from base (10 individuals) 5.0-5.4 (5.3), tarsus 10.2-11.2 (10.6) mm.

Females (6 specimens), wing 108.2-110.8 (109.1), tail 32.7-35.0 (34.1), culmen from base 5.0-5.5 (5.3), tarsus 10.0-10.8 (10.4) mm.

FAMILY TROCHILIDAE

Amazilia distans sp. nov.

Characters.—Size and general appearance that of *Amazilia fimbriata* (Gmelin)⁵ but with a glittering crown spot, different in color from the rest of the head; shining blue (instead of green) on the foreneck and upper breast.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 60790, male, from El Salao, 300 meters elevation, near Burgua, Estado Táchira, Venezuela, taken July 17, 1954, by Ramón Urbano; (on deposit in U.S. National Museum). Fore crown, from forehead to level of the posterior margin of the eyes, glittering benzol green; posterior part of crown and hind-neck shining cossack green; back, wing coverts and rump shining grass green; upper tail coverts shining carob brown; remiges dull purplish black; rectrices dull blue-green black; throat, foreneck and upper breast glittering spectrum blue; feathers of throat edged with white producing a spotted effect; sides shining grass green, spreading across lower breast where the feathers are edged widely with olive-gray; abdomen pale olive-gray; flanks white, the feathers forming a tuft on either side; under tail coverts deep quaker drab margined with dull white; under wing coverts and edge of wing shining grass green. Bill reddish in life, tipped with black, tarsi and toes dull black.

Measurements.—Male (type), wing 51, tail 27.3, culmen from base 20 mm.

Range.—Known only from near Burgua, in southern Táchira, Venezuela.

Remarks.—The type, the only specimen known while compared with *Amazilia fimbriata*, differs definitely in the glittering blue foreneck and upper breast, and in possessing a crown spot differing in color from the rest of the head. Apparently the basal half of the bill in life was distinctly more red, also. The appearance of the specimen is so distinct from that of other species of the genus that we have no hesitance in describing it as representing a new species.

FAMILY FURNARIIDAE

Philydor hylobius sp. nov.

Characters.—Similar to *Philydor atricapillus* Wied⁶, but tail equal to wing instead of shorter; feet and tarsi decidedly heavier; more deeply rufescent throughout; ear coverts entirely dark.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 59683, sex ?, high slopes of Cerro de la Neblina, 1800 meters, Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela, collected January 26, 1954, by Ramón Urbano (on deposit in U.S.

⁵ *Trochilus fimbriatus* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., vol. 1, pt. 1, 1788, p. 493.

⁶ *Anabates atricapillus* Wied, Reise Bras., vol. 2, 1821, p. 147 (p. 146 in 8vo ed.) (Rio Catolé, Baía, Brasil).

National Museum). Crown and hindneck Prout's brown, with faintly indicated edgings of hazel; back, rump, upper tail coverts and wing coverts warm cinnamon-brown; secondaries and inner primaries between cinnamon-brown and ochraceous-tawny, except for the outer portions of the inner webs, which are dark neutral gray; outer primaries dark neutral gray with the outer webs ochraceous-tawny; a broad superciliary, extending from the nostril to posterior end of the pileum, tawny; space in front of eye, extending back across lower eyelid and auricular area, Dresden brown; a single line of feathers in center of lower lid tawny, bordered by Dresden brown on either side; under surface ochraceous-tawny, shading to cinnamon-brown on flanks and under tail coverts; feathers of throat and foreneck white basally; under wing coverts tawny. Maxilla, and tip and cutting edge of mandible, fuscous; rest of mandible olive-buff; tarsus and toes hair brown (from dried skin).

Measurements.—Type (sex not known), wing 76.4, (tail lacking), culmen from base 19.0, tarsus 22.0 mm.

Female, immature, wing 78.0, tail 82.0, culmen from base 18.7, tarsus 21.3 mm.

Range.—Known only from the subtropical zone on the high northwestern slopes of Cerro de la Neblina, southeastern Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela.

Remarks.—The present species is the most unusual of the birds found on the higher slopes of Cerro de la Neblina, where apparently it is uncommon, since only two were taken during two weeks of intensive collecting. The second of these is a female in full juvenal plumage (Phelps Collection no. 59684) that differs somewhat from the adult as indicated in the following: Head and neck Prout's brown, the feathers tipped lightly with dusky neutral gray, producing faintly-indicated squamations; back cinnamon-brown, changing to russet on the rump and upper tail coverts; wings as in the adult; tail Mars brown; foreneck, breast and abdomen buckthorn brown, tipped lightly with dusky neutral gray, forming slightly indicated squamations; sides and flanks Dresden brown; under tail coverts tawny; markings on sides of head as in the adult. The long tail is much graduated, and has the attenuated slender points characteristic of juvenile individuals in species of this genus. The bird has not yet begun the molt to the first post-juvenal plumage. This topotype is also placed on deposit in the U.S. National Museum, that the characters of the tail and of the juvenal plumage may be available for examination with the type.

The bird here described is closely allied to the type species of the genus *Philydor atricapillus*, that ranges from Baía and Minas Geraes to Paraguay and northern Argentina, which it resembles in general terms of pattern and color. The more slender bill and the heavier feet and tarsi, coupled with the color differences described, give it status as a species.

We have hesitated in preparing this description due to the imperfection of the adult individual which lacks the tail, but have given it a name because of its outstanding uniqueness, and since it may be long before further collections are available from the remote mountain that is its home.

FAMILY FORMICARIIDAE.

Grallaria chthonia sp. nov.

Characters.—In general, resembling the South American forms with streaked breasts at present grouped as races under the species name *Grallaria guatemalensis* Prévost and Des Murs, but with breast, sides and upper abdomen lightly but definitely barred; decidedly darker and more olive throughout, especially on the lower surface, throat dark olive; bill relatively longer, in proportion to its width at base.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 61055, male, from Hacienda La Providencia, 1800 meters elevation, Río Chiquito, Táchira, Venezuela, collected February 10, 1955, by Ramón Urbano (on deposit in U.S. National Museum.) Pileum to the level of the posterior margin of the eyes sepia, becoming Saccardo's umber on forehead, with each feather edged narrowly with black around the exposed margin; posterior part of crown and hindneck neutral gray, also margined with black, except in the line of an indistinct superciliary, extending from the center of the eye back above the ear coverts, in which the black edging is absent or very slightly evident on a few of the feathers; feathers of this superciliary anteriorly becoming whitish basally, tipped with buffy brown, and extending thus to base of bill behind nostril; back, scapulars and rump between light brownish olive and brownish olive, the feathers edged narrowly with black; upper tail coverts cinnamon-brown; rectrices sepia, with the exposed webs bister; wing coverts and outer webs of secondaries olive-brown; primaries fuscous-black, the outer webs edged with olive-brown; loreal area mixed blackish and buffy brown; space beneath eye clove brown, with the anterior feathers whitish to buffy brown basally; ear coverts and sides of neck olive-brown; a pronounced rectal streak extending from the base of the mandible to the level of the posterior margin of the ear coverts, with the feathers dull white basally, washed with cream-buff near the tips, and tipped with black; throat and upper foreneck with the feathers olive-brown basally, merging into dull black at the tips; lower foreneck with a broad spot in which the feathers basally are dull white becoming cream-buff, with an indefinite line of dull black separating the lighter basal color from the buffy brown tip; upper breast buffy brown with concealed whitish shaft streaks; lower breast and sides dull whitish, barred with mouse gray, the barring merging with the lighter color so that while distinct, the lines are not sharply delimited, the whole washed lightly with clay color; flanks with the barring more indefinite and the clay color wash more evident; lower abdomen dull whitish washed with chamois; under tail coverts slightly paler than buckthorn brown; under wing coverts ochraceous-buff, with the outer margin olive brown; axillars sepia, edged with cinnamon-buff; inner webs of innermost primaries and outer secondaries with a slight wash of chamois. Bill dull black, becoming pale olive-buff at base of mandible; tarsi and toes hair brown (from dried skin).

Measurements.—Male, type, wing 97.8, tail 38.7, culmen from base 26.8, tarsus 43.7 mm.

Range.—Known only from the type locality in the subtropical zone on the Río Chiquito in southwestern Táchira.

Remarks.—The barring noted on the lower surface, which though

not heavily contrasted with the basal coloration is clearly evident, together with the darker, less rufescent brown color in general, sets this bird apart from any others at present known in northern South America. The elongated, rather slender bill is much like that of *Grallaria alleni* Chapman, and is quite distinct from the heavier, broader form found in the various races of *Grallaria varia* (Boddaert). Also the bill is longer than that of *Grallaria guatimalensis carmelitae* Todd, being more like that of *G. g. regulus* Selater of Ecuador.

FAMILY COTINGIDAE.

Acrochordopus zeledoni bunites subsp. nov.

Characters.—Similar to *Acrochordopus zeledoni wetmorei* Avelado and Pons⁷ but bill decidedly more slender; dark gray of crown extending down over the hindneck with only a trace of greenish wash; back slightly duller, less greenish; slightly darker below, especially on the breast, with the under tail coverts darker; edge of the wing darker.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 35992, sex not marked, western slope of Cerro Chimantá-tepui, 1300 meters elevation, Estado Bolívar, Venezuela, taken July 9, 1946, by Ramón Urbano (on deposit in U.S. National Museum). Forehead and a narrow superciliary stripe terminating at posterior margin of eye dull white; lores dark mouse gray; crown and hindneck deep mouse gray, the latter with a very faint greenish wash; back, scapulars, rump and upper tail coverts dull vetiver green; lesser wing coverts vetiver green; middle and greater coverts dull black, tipped with deep sea-foam green; inner primaries and secondaries edged with deep sea-foam green; rectrices dull hair brown, edged toward the base with dull deep grape green; sides of head dull white, including a row of feathers bordering the margin of the lower eyelid; chin and throat dull white becoming faintly yellowish green down the center of foreneck; area across the base of lower mandible, below eye, indistinctly barred with deep mouse gray; breast, abdomen and flanks between barium yellow and citron yellow, the breast heavily washed with grape green; sides grape green; under tail coverts dark olive-buff; under wing coverts Marguerite yellow, the inner ones becoming primrose yellow; edge of wing primrose yellow, mixed with dull hair brown; inner webs of primaries edged with dull white except at tips. Maxilla and tip of mandible fuscous; base of mandible grayish white; tarsus and toes deep mouse gray (from dried skin).

Measurements.—Type, sex not marked, wing 64.0, tail 46.5, culmen from base 9.0, width of bill at nostril 3.1, tarsus 14.0 mm.

Range.—Known only from the mountain Chimantá-tepui, Estado Bolívar, Venezuela.

Remarks.—The single specimen of this interesting bird has been under prolonged study because of the rarity of the species in museum collections. We have now seen the majority of those available, including the type of *A. z. leucogonys* (Selater and Salvin) in the British Museum (Natural History), and find that in none of the skins of the other races of *zeledoni* is the bill small as it is in *bunites*. In

⁷ Mem. Soc. Cienc. Nat. La Salle, no. 35, 1953, p. 203 (Jamayaujaina, Río Negro, Sierra de Perijá, Estado Zulia, Venezuela).

this character the race described here, isolated widely from its near relatives, is definitely peculiar.

The roughened sealation of the tarsus in *Aerochordopus* that marks this genus from any of its relatives is an unusual character. Aside from this, the tarsus is pycnaspidean. While Hellmayr has placed this genus in the family Tyrannidae, it is the carefully considered opinion of the senior author that Ridgway was correct in assigning *Aerochordopus* to the Cotingidae.

FAMILY VIREONIDAE.

Hylophilus aurantiifrons helvinus subsp. nov.

Characters.—Similar to *Hylophilus aurantiifrons saturatus* (Hellmayr)⁸ but decidedly darker above, especially on the crown which is deeper brown; sides of neck and upper breast with brownish wash darker and more extensive; flanks greener; under tail coverts darker yellow.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 58965, male, from Campamento Petrolero, 350 meters elevation, near Burgua, Estado Táchira, Venezuela, collected Nov. 5, 1952, by Ramón Urbano; (on deposit in U.S. National Museum). Crown and hindneck between Saccardo's umber and sepia, merging indistinctly into an area of dull reed yellow on the forehead, extending posteriorly slightly in the line of the anterior superciliary area; upper back, including scapular area, buffy olive; lower back, rump, and upper tail coverts dull citrine; wing coverts dull citrine, edged with yellowish citrine; primaries and secondaries deep mouse Gray, edged with yellowish citrine; rectrices olive-citrine, edged, especially toward the base, with yellowish citrine; loreal area, and an indistinct line extending back above the eye to its posterior margin, dull white; sides of head Isabella color, this extending down the sides of neck; throat and foreneck dull white; a wash of deep colonial buff across upper breast, shading into pale Isabella color at the sides; lower breast and abdomen reed yellow; under tail coverts citron yellow; sides and flanks olive yellow; under surface of rectrices yellowish olive, with inner webs margined with olive-yellow; edge of wing citron yellow; under wing coverts light barium yellow; inner webs of primaries and secondaries edged with primrose yellow. Iris dark; culmen blackish; rest of bill flesh color; legs grayish brown (from field label).

Measurements.—Males (3 specimens), wing 57.0-60.2 (58.1), tail 45.2-48.2 (47.0), culmen from base 14.3-16.3 (15.1), tarsus 15.4-16.8 (16.2) mm.

Female (one specimen), wing 55.4, tail 44.4, culmen from base 14.6, tarsus 17.0 mm.

⁸ *Pachysylvia aurantiifrons saturata* Hellmayr, Nov. Zool., vol. 13, no. 1, Feb. 24, 1906, p. 12 (San Antonio, "Cumaná" = Monagas). Hellmayr, Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., vol. 13, pt. 8, Sept. 16, 1935, p. 171, says in his citation of the original description of this bird "no type locality indicated," and then proceeds to list a type specimen from "Rincon de San Antonio, State of Sucre, northeastern Venezuela." This is an oversight, however, since when he proposed the name he included as a footnote on the same page "Type: Mus. Tring., no. 978, Caracciolo coll. "Q" ad., San Antonio, Cumaná, March 18th, 1893." The location actually is in the northern part of the state of Monagas. Rincón de San Antonio is another place entirely, being located 10 miles distant.

Type, male, wing 57.0, tail 48.2, culmen from base 16.3, tarsus 15.4 mm.

Range.—Known in western Venezuela, from La Sierra (120 meters elevation), 12 kilometers southwest of Machiques, western Zulia, and from Burgua (250 meters elevation), southern Táchira.

Discussion.—This form, represented by 6 specimens in the collections available, is the most heavily pigmented of its species, being so decidedly darker than *H. a. saturatus* that it stands out at a glance from the long series of that race that we have examined. *H. a. helvinus* is supposed to range through the foothill region of western Zulia southward to the area of occurrence in Táchira.

***Hylophilus flavipes galbanus* subsp. nov.**

Characters.—Similar to *Hylophilus flavipes flavipes* Lafresnaye⁹ but more buffy, less yellow, on breast and sides, and whiter on abdomen; darker above.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection no. 11458, male, from Bramón, Táchira, elevation 1200 meters, collected March 8, 1941, by Ramón Urbano; on deposit in U.S. National Museum. Crown Saccardo's olive; an indistinct line from above the eye forward onto the forehead deep colonial buff; back olive-citrine, becoming dull citrine on the rump; wing coverts dull citrine; remiges chaetura drab, edged with yellowish citrine, upper surface of rectrices dull citrine; sides of head buffy olive; throat olive-buff; foreneck and upper breast deep olive-buff, with a faint wash of buffy brown; lower breast and abdomen cartridge buff, washed with cream-buff; sides dull olive-yellow; under tail coverts slightly brighter than reed yellow; edge of wing reed yellow; under wing coverts amber yellow. Maxilla dark wood brown; mandible dull cream-buff; tarsus and toes dull chamois (from dried skin). Iris white (from collector's label).

Range.—Northern Colombia, from northeastern Magdalena at the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (La Cueva), and the valley of the Río Ranchería (El Conejo, Riohacha), east through the Comisaría de Guajira (Carriapía, Maicao) except for the eastern tip (where *H. f. melleus* Wetmore is found in the foothills of the Serranía de Macuire), south in northwestern Venezuela, through western Zulia (Paraguaipoa, La Esperanza, Las Múcuras, Villa del Rosario, La Sierra, Santa Barbara), extending again into Colombia along the eastern foothills of the eastern Andes in Norte de Santander (Cúcuta, Villa Felisa), south into Meta (Villavicencio); again in Venezuela east along the foothills of the Andes from Táchira (Santo Domingo, La Sabana near San Cristóbal, Bramón), and Mérida (El Vigía) through Barinas (Barinitas, La Veguita), and Portuguesa (Guanare, Acarigua) to eastern Yaracuy (San Felipe, Nirgua).

Measurements.—Males (33 specimens), wing 52.1-58.5 (55.6), tail 41.1-48.9 (44.5, average of 32), culmen from base 11.6-13.8 (12.8, average of 32), tarsus 16.9-19.3 (17.9, average of 31) mm.

Females (18 specimens), wing 50.8-57.5 (53.8), tail 40.7-46.4 (43.7), culmen from base 12.2-13.5 (12.8, average of 17), tarsus 16.3-19.0 (17.7) mm.

⁹ *Hylophilus flavipes* Lafresnaye, Rev. Zool., vol. 8, Sept., 1845, p. 342 (Bogotá, Colombia).

Type, male, wing 56.4, tail 42.8, culmen from base 12.8, tarsus 16.9 mm.

Remarks.—With the excellent series of skins now at hand in the U.S. National Museum and the Phelps Collection it is possible to clarify various problems concerned with *Hylophilus flavipes*. Typical *H. f. flavipes* Lafresnaye, named from Bogotá skins, ranges widely through tropical Colombia, while the birds of Venezuela have been listed as *Hylophilus flavipes acuticaudus* Lawrence. Certain specimens of a yellowish cast from Villavicencio, Meta, near the eastern base of the eastern Andean range have been carried as true *flavipes* for many years without arousing comment, and more recently similar specimens that came to the Phelps Collection from southwestern Venezuela were placed under the same name. Our present studies, based on long series of specimens, show clearly that true *flavipes* does not cross the eastern Andes of Colombia, and that there is a group between it and *acuticaudus* over a considerable geographic area that needs to be named. The deeper coloration of this new form has come especially to attention in skins secured recently in southern Táchira.

Intergradation with *acuticaudus* appears in the general region of western Estado Carabobo. We have a long series of skins that represent this race that cover northeastern Venezuela south to northern Bolívar. Lawrence's type specimen agrees with skins from the Caracas area, so that Todd's designation of the restricted type locality to Puerto La Cruz, Aragua, seems reasonable. Several skins examined from Margarita Island appear to agree with our series from the Venezuelan mainland.

FAMILY THRAUPIDAE.

Hemispingus melanotis melanotis (Sclater)

Chlorospingus melanotis Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1854 (April, 1855), p. 157, pl. 68 ("Bogotá", Colombia.)

Two specimens, male and female collected January 30 and February 7, 1955, in forest at 1800 meters altitude on the Hacienda La Providencia, Río Chiquito, Táchira, constitute the first record for Venezuela. In size and color these skins come clearly within the individual variation found in a small series of the typical race, described originally from Bogotá trade skins, and known to range in the subtropical zone of the Central and Eastern Andes, extending south into eastern Ecuador. The bird has not been reported previously north of the Bogotá region in Cundinamarca where it is known from the vicinity of Fusugasugá and Choachí, so that the two from the Río Chiquito mark a considerable extension of range to the north.